Menyanthes trifoliata

MENYANTHES TRIFOLIATA.

Buck Bean.

PLATE XLVI.

THE *Buck bean* or *Marsh Trefoil* is one of those plants which are native in Europe and North America, with so little difference of structure, in the two continents, that their specific identity can hardly be doubted. I have compared specimens of the native, and foreign plant, without being able to perceive the least definable difference, except in size; the American being smaller. Yet, if we admit the statements of botanical writers, the plant flowers in England at least a month later than it does in the neighbourhood of Boston, a circumstance not usual in other species of vegetables.

The most spongy and boggy soils, which are inundated at certain seasons, and never wholly destitute of water, are the favorite situations of the Menyanthes trifoliata. It often constitutes large